

What is claimed is:

1. A vehicle headlamp having a lighting device unit for emitting low beams of light, said lighting device unit comprising:

5 a light source disposed on an optical axis extending in a longitudinal direction with respect to a vehicle;

a reflector that reflects rays of light forward;

a projection lens positioned in front of the reflector;

10 a shade disposed between the projection lens and the reflector, that shields a part of the light reflected from the reflector; and

a pair of opposed additional reflectors disposed face to face with respect to each other, and positioned under the light source.

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2. The vehicle headlamp according to claim 1, wherein the reflective surfaces of the pair of respective additional reflectors are formed in a configuration comprising paraboloids of revolution, the position of the light source is substantially
20 a focal point, and a common axis extends in a predetermined direction as a central axis.

3. The vehicle headlamp according to claim 1, wherein the reflector converges the rays of light from the light source
25 substantially closer to the optical axis.

4. The vehicle headlamp according to claim 1, wherein the pair of additional reflectors are disposed face to face with respect to each other in the longitudinal direction.

5 5. The vehicle headlamp according to claim 1, wherein the pair of additional reflectors are disposed face to face with respect to each other in a lateral direction with respect to the longitudinal direction of the vehicle.

10 6. The vehicle headlamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein two sets of the pair of additional reflectors are provided in a substantially orthogonal arrangement.

15 7. The vehicle headlamp of claim 6, wherein said substantially orthogonal arrangement of said two sets is aligned one of in parallel with said longitudinal direction, and at a 45 degree angle with said longitudinal direction.

20 8. The vehicle headlamp of claim 2, wherein the central axis of the paraboloids of revolution forming the additional reflectors is set upward by an angle with respect to the optical axis.

25 9. The vehicle headlamp of claim 2, wherein the focal distance of one of the paraboloids of revolution forming a first one of said pair of additional reflectors is set at a

value greater than the focal distance of one of the paraboloids of revolution forming a second one of the pair of additional reflectors.

5 10. A vehicle headlamp having a lighting device unit for emitting low beams of light, said the lighting device unit comprising:

 a light source disposed on an optical axis extending in a longitudinal direction with respect to a vehicle;

10 means for reflecting reflects rays of light forward with respect to said light source;

 means for projecting said reflected rays of light to a location external to said vehicle headlamp;

15 a means for shielding a part of the light reflected from the means for reflecting, and

 means for redirecting a part of said shielded light toward said means for reflecting, so as to be retroreflectively reflected to said means for projecting.

20 11. The vehicle headlamp of claim 10, wherein said means for redirecting comprises a pair of opposed additional reflectors disposed face to face with respect to each other and positioned under the light source.

25 12. The vehicle headlamp of claim 11, wherein the reflective surfaces of the pair of respective additional reflectors are

formed in a configuration comprising paraboloids of revolution, the position of the light source is a substantially focal point, and a common axis extends in a predetermined direction as a central axis.

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13. The vehicle headlamp of claim 13, wherein the central axis of the paraboloids of revolution forming the additional reflectors is set upward by a predetermined angle with respect to the optical axis.

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14. The vehicle headlamp of claim 13, wherein the focal distance of one of the paraboloids of revolution forming a first one of said pair of additional reflectors is set at a value greater than the focal distance of one of the paraboloids of revolution forming a second one of the pair of additional reflectors.

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15. The vehicle headlamp of claim 11, wherein the reflector converges the rays of light from the light source substantially closer to the optical axis.

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16. The vehicle headlamp of claim 11, wherein the pair of additional reflectors are disposed face to face with each other in the longitudinal direction.

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17. The vehicle headlamp according to claim 11, wherein

the pair of additional reflectors are disposed face to face with each other in a lateral direction with respect to the longitudinal direction of the vehicle.

5 18. The vehicle headlamp as claimed in claim 11, wherein two sets of the pair of additional reflectors are provided in a substantially orthogonal arrangement.

10 19. The vehicle headlamp of claim 18, wherein said orthogonal arrangement of said two sets is aligned one of in parallel with said optical axis, and at a 45 degree angle with said optical axis.

15 20. The vehicle headlamp of claim 10, wherein said means for shielding comprises a shade disposed between the projection lens and the reflector.